

Applicant : Funahashi et al.  
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Attorney's Docket No. 14875-056001

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-2. (canceled)

3. (previously presented) A substantially pure polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:1.

4-25. (canceled)

26. (currently amended) A method of screening for a compound that specifically binds to a polypeptide, the method comprising contacting a test compound with the polypeptide of claim [[1]] 3, and comparing the extent to which the test compound binds to the polypeptide with the extent to which a reference compound binds to the polypeptide, wherein a test compound binding to the polypeptide to a greater extent than the reference compound indicates that the test compound specifically binds to the polypeptide.

27. (previously presented) The method of claim 26, wherein the test compound is a test polypeptide.

28-34. (canceled)

35. (previously presented) A substantially pure polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2.

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36. (previously presented) The polypeptide of claim 3, wherein the polypeptide consists of the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:1.

37. (previously presented) The polypeptide of claim 35, wherein the polypeptide consists of the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2.

38. (new) A method of screening for a compound that specifically binds to a polypeptide, the method comprising contacting a test compound with the polypeptide of claim 35, and comparing the extent to which the test compound binds to the polypeptide with the extent to which a reference compound binds to the polypeptide, wherein a test compound binding to the polypeptide to a greater extent than the reference compound indicates that the test compound specifically binds to the polypeptide.

39. (new) The method of claim 38, wherein the test compound is a test polypeptide.